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# Food Marketing NEWSLETTER

PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION

MIDWESTERN AREA - OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES --- 623 S. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO 5, ILLINOIS.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

March 4, 1953

## GRAINS

USDA will support price of 1953-crop corn at minimum level of \$1.58 a bushel and 1953-crop rice at \$4.84 per cwt. This compares with \$1.60 for corn and \$5.04 for rice in 1952.

Both crops will be supported at 90% of parity. Support levels of both will be revised upward if 90% of parity at start of marketing year, August 1 for rice, October 1 for corn, is higher than minimum established February 27.

U.S. sales under the International Wheat Agreement February 18 through 24, confirmed by CCC, totaled 6,100,000 bus. (including 257,906 cwt. flour in wheat equivalent). Principal importing countries Italy, Japan, and U.K. Cumulative U. S. sales under 1952-53 quotas, 181,520,000 bus.

PMA Commodity office sales for export or domestic use, week ended February 26, from inventories acquired under price support operations: corn, 974,253 bus.; wheat, 263,940 bus.; barley, 497 bus.; oats, 686 bus.; dry edible beans, 734 cwt.; Austrian winter peas, 2,900 cwt.; clover seed, 3,190 lbs.; corn screenings, 238 tons. Major sales were for export: by Portland, 567,956 bus. corn; by Dallas, 257,140 bus. wheat. All corn stocks Portland office have been sold.

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## DAIRY

Dairy product prices will be supported for another year beginning April 1 at 90% of parity, Secretary of Agriculture Benson announced February 27. Decision follows recommendations of Dairy Industry Advisory Group, congressional and farm leaders, and others. Additional year of supports at current levels expected to enable Industry to demonstrate to what degree it can solve its own problems.

Purchases of dairy products under support program through February 28: butter, 90,794,991 lbs.; cheese, 29,739,929 lbs.; spray milk solids, 121,569,656 lbs.; roller milk solids, 2,316,911 lbs.

NEW DIRECTOR OF PMA'S DAIRY BRANCH IS E.M. NORTON WHO WAS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF BRANCH FOR SEVERAL YEARS. HE SUCCEEDS PRESTON RICHARDS, APPOINTED ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR COMMODITY OPERATIONS OF PMA. DIRECTOR NORTON JOINED STAFF OF USDA IN 1934.

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## POULTRY

U.S. farm flocks laid 5,085 million dozen eggs --- more than 61 billion - in 1952, BAE reports. Year's output was record high, 3% above 1951, and credited to increased rate of lay and 2% more layers than in 1951. Each hen in laying flocks produced 178 eggs in 1952 compared with 175 in 1951.

Liquid egg production during January totaled 20.5 million lbs., about 2.8 million lbs. less than January, 1952, and 9.2 million lbs. less than 1947-51 average for month. Of total, 1.6 million went into immediate consumption, 0.8 million lbs. were dried, balance frozen.

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## LIVESTOCK AND MEATS

Commercial meat production in U.S. during January (inspected and other, except farm slaughter) amounted to 2,117 million lbs., 2% above January, 1952. Month's output (in million lbs.) and percentage change from year ago: beef, 928 - up 8%; veal, 92 - up 23%; pork, 1,030 - down 9%; lamb and mutton, 67 - up 24%.

Meat production under federal inspection, week ended February 28, totaled 309 million lbs., down 8% from same week in 1952. Monday holiday curtailed output. Beef production slightly above year ago, but pork 40 million lbs. less. Week's production included (million lbs.): beef, 152.1; veal, 11.7; pork, 133; lamb and mutton, 12.0.

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



AGRICULTURAL PRICES

Lower prices for cattle, eggs, milk, potatoes, wheat and corn during month ending February 15 were offset only partially by better prices for hogs, cotton, and some other farm products, and index of prices U.S. farmers receive for their products dropped another 4 points (1-1/2%) to 263 of the 1910-14 base of 100. February index was 50 points (16%) below high of February, 1951 but still 6% above June, 1950.

Parity Index, (prices paid by farmers, including interest, taxes, and wage rates), declined 2 points (nearly 1%) to 280 during same period, 3% below peak of April, 1952 but 10% above June 1950, just prior to Korean conflict. Parity ratio now 94, lowest since June 1941.

February 15 average prices for major Midwest farm products and percent of parity: corn, \$1.43 bu. - 82%; wheat, \$2.05 bu.; 85%; beef cattle, \$18.80 cwt.; 89%; hogs, \$19.30 cwt., 95%; all chickens, live, 26.6¢ lb., 86%; eggs, 42¢ doz., 103%; butterfat, 66.8¢ lb., 87%; all milk, wholesale, \$4.66 cwt., 97%; wool, 51.7¢ lb., 88%.

\* \* \*

WOOL

U.S. wool production in 1952, shorn and pulled, amounted to 266 million lbs., 6% above 1951 and largest since 1948. Of total, 232.4 million lbs. was shorn. Growers received average of 53.3¢ per lb. for shorn products, and estimated \$123.5 million for clip about \$95 million less than record high received for 1951 crop, and \$6.2 million less than 10 year average.

Mohair clip 1952 totaled 12.1 million lbs., 6% below 1951 and 34% under 10 year average. Except for 1951, mohair output has declined each year since 1945. Average price, 96.2¢ - value of production, \$11.7 million.

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MARKETING AND FACILITIES RESEARCH BRANCH, USDA, HAS RECENTLY COMPLETED SURVEY OF GROCERY RETAILERS' REACTIONS TO THEIR WHOLESALERS' ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS. 1,695 INDEPENDENT GROCERS ANSWERED SIX PAGE QUESTIONNAIRE AIMED TO GAUGE RESULTS OF WHOLESALERS' PROGRAMS TO ASSIST RETAILERS BECOME MORE EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE OPERATORS. REPORT IN PRINT SOON.

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HONEY

About 23.6 million lbs. of honey were certified for export through February 13 under current disposal program. About 12.9 million lbs. placed under price support loans or purchase agreements by producers.

\* \* \*

FRUITS

U. S. householders bought the equivalent of 7,304,000 boxes of oranges during January, 1953, in form of fresh oranges, frozen concentrated, and canned single strength juice. Frozen concentrated purchases amounted to 4,126,000 gallons, equivalent to 3,078,000 boxes, at average 15.8¢ per 6 oz. can. Purchases fresh oranges totaled 3,154,000 cases.

Grapefruit purchases in month, fresh, 703,000 boxes; juices, 1,012,000 cases equiv. No. 2 cans. Lemons, fresh, 210,000 boxes, canned, 49,000 cases equiv. No. 2 cans. Tangerines, 1,094,000 boxes.

\* \* \*

COTTON

USDA will support 1953-crop upland cotton at 30.80 cents per lb., gross weight for middling 7/8 inch. This represents 90% of current parity. If parity level is higher at start of marketing year August 1, support level will be increased accordingly. The 1953 support level compares with 30.91 cents in 1952. In making announcement, Department urged producers to reduce acreage 18% from 1952, to avoid marketing quotas for 1954 crop.

\* \* \*

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# Food Marketing NEWSLETTER

PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION

MIDWESTERN AREA - OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES --- 623 S. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO 5, ILLINOIS.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

March 11, 1953

## GRAINS

U.S. exports of grains and grain products for period July, 1952-January, 1953 estimated by USDA at 296,830,000 equivalent bus., down 18% from 364,013,000 bus. in same period 1951-52. Total included 159.3 million bus. wheat and products, and 109.5 million bus. coarse grains. Comparable figures for period year earlier were 262.8 million bus. wheat and products, and 101.2 million bus. coarse grains.

USDA has announced rice export allocations for April-June 1953 period of 3.9 million (100 lb.) bags. This brings total allocated for export from 1952 crop to about 17.4 million bags.

Price supports will not be available for 1953-crop hay and pasture seeds, Agriculture Secretary Benson announced March 6. Carryover stock plus expected 1953 production insure adequate supplies. Previous support programs were undertaken to encourage production when stocks were low. CCC will announce new prices on its seed holdings soon.

U.S. sales under International Wheat Agreement February 25 through March 3, totaled 8,445,000 bus. (including 95,585 cwt. flour in wheat equiv.). Total sales under U.S. 1952-53 quota, 189,965,000 bus. Balance of quota unfilled, 63,163,000 bus.

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MEAT PRODUCTION UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION, WEEK ENDED MARCH 7, ESTIMATED 356 MILLION LBS., UP 16% FROM THE PREVIOUS HOLIDAY WEEK, AND 12% GREATER THAN OUTPUT SAME WEEK 1952. SLAUGHTER OF ALL SPECIES EXPANDED; CATTLE KILL 39% ABOVE YEAR AGO. OUTPUT INCLUDED (MILLION LBS.): BEEF, 174.9; VEAL, 14.5; PORK, 155; LAMB AND MUTTON, 14.0.

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## COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION

CCC commodities available to commercial exporters during March, at specific export prices: crude and refined cottonseed oil, cottonseed meal, raw linseed oil, peanuts, dry edible beans, Austrian winter peas, wheat, oats, barley and corn.

Available for domestic sale at specific prices: nonfat dry milk solids, butter, cheddar cheese, raw linseed oil, crude and refined cottonseed oil, cottonseed meal, olive oil, dry edible beans, Austrian winter peas, flaxseed, oats, barley, corn, wheat, and ladino clover seed. Other seeds listed previously, dropped temporarily pending redetermination of prices.

Nonfat milk solids, flaxseed, and ladino clover seed are also available to exporters at specified domestic sales prices.

CCC will offer about 395 bales of kenaf fiber for sale March 17. It's stored in West Palm Beach, Fla. Offers should be made to Director, Cotton Branch, PMA, Washington, D. C. before 3 p.m. EST, March 17, 1953.

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## EXPORTS

U. S. agricultural exports dropped 15%, dollarwise, in 1952 from postwar record year, 1951. Exports were valued at \$3,424,738,000, compared with \$4,040,054,000 in 1951.

Farm products constituted 23% of total value all U.S. exports in 1952, compared with 27% in 1947 when total exports reached all time high, and 29% in 5 prewar years, (1934-38) when all U.S. exports averaged only \$2.6 billion. In those years agricultural exports averaged \$763 million.

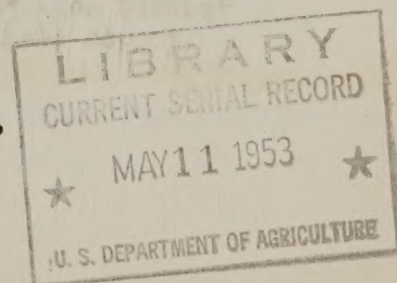
Wheat and products led 1952 agricultural exports with value of \$941 million. Cotton shipments were \$862.2 million.

Imports of agricultural products (coffee, wool, rubber, sugar, cacao, bananas, etc.) in 1952, valued at \$4,518,156,000, down 13% from 1951. They represented 42% of all U.S. imports, compared with 48% in 1951.

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EARLY FEBRUARY REPORTS INDICATE TOTAL QUANTITY 20 COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES GROWN FOR HARVEST THIS WINTER (JAN.-MAR. 1953), IS 7% GREATER THAN 1952, AND 11% ABOVE AVERAGE 1949-51. PRICES PROBABLY LOWER THAN YEAR AGO. MAJOR INCREASE IN SUPPLIES OF CABBAGE, CARROTS, LETTUCE, BEETS, ARTICHOKE AND CAULIFLOWER.

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#### SCHOOL LUNCH

Participation in National School Lunch program during current school year has reached 9.9 million children in almost 57,000 schools. New record, and 5.8% above participation in 1951-52.

Federal appropriation for lunch program current year is \$83.4 million, of which \$67.1 million is scheduled for apportionment to States in cash. Balance used to buy foods that help meet specific nutritional requirements for schools taking part in program.

In 1951-52 about \$250 million was spent for food locally by participating schools, in addition to federal allotments. During 6 months ended December 31, 1952, USDA has contributed \$37 million worth of foods acquired under price support and surplus removal programs, and foods purchased to meet diet needs.

\* \* \*

#### POULTRY

Industry-wide group meeting in Washington March 5-6 has recommended cut in 1953 production of mature, heavy-type turkeys of 12 to 15% below last year's record 44.5 million of this type birds. Conference also recommended that unless turkey industry makes suggested downward adjustment in heavy birds in 1953, no surplus removal program be considered by USDA this year.

Turkey growers' January intentions were to raise 23% fewer small turkeys than last year, and 3% fewer large turkeys, BAE reports. In recent years production has been larger than indicated by growers' February intentions.

\* \* \*

CALIFORNIA FRUIT GROWERS IN REFERENDUM JANUARY 16  
THROUGH 31, VOTED CONTINUANCE OF MARKETING AGREEMENT AND  
ORDER PROGRAM REGULATING HANDLING OF FRESH BARTLETT PEARS,  
EARLY AND LATE PLUMS, AND ELBERTA PEACHES GROWN IN STATE.  
MARKETING AGREEMENT AND ORDER ORIGINALLY EFFECTIVE MAY, 1939.

\* \* \*

#### FOOD SUPPLY-1953

U.S. food consumption in 1953 expected to continue at about same level as in past several years, BAE predicts in the National Food Situation. Although too early for dependable forecasts of crop and livestock product output, present indications favor another year of high farm production if average weather prevails.

Present prospects indicate an increase over 1952 in consumption of beef and veal, margarine, frozen fruit juices and vegetables, and fresh vegetables, if weather conditions are normal. Per capita consumption of pork, lamb, and mutton, eggs, butter, canned fruit juices and perhaps sugar, expected to decline.

Average level of retail food prices in 1953 anticipated only slightly below 1952, with continued strong civilian demand.

\* \* \*

#### TOBACCO

Cigarette production in U.S. during 1952 totaled 435.5 billion, up 4% from 1951. Output is expected to be higher in 1953.

Of total 1952 output, domestic consumption took 394 billion, armed services overseas, ships stores, etc. (all tax free), about 22 billion, and exports, 19 billion. Domestic cigarette consumption including service men overseas last year (15 years and over) estimated 3,719 per person, about 10 per day.

Cigar consumption in 1952, estimated a little over 6 billion, based on indicated tax-paid withdrawals, 4% above 1951 and highest except for 1942, since 1930.

\* \* \*

#### DAIRY

Dairy products price support purchases by USDA through Monday, March 9: butter, 102,793,081 lbs.; cheese, 37,642,365 lbs.; nonfat dry milk solids, 142,644,970 lbs.

Creamery butter production, week ended March 5, estimated 26,050,000 lbs., 29% above corresponding week in 1952. Output was 15% above the 5 year 1947-51 average for week.

\* \* \*

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March 18, 1953

## LIVESTOCK AND MEATS

USDA, in cooperation with livestock producers, slaughterers, packers, and food distributive trade, is engaged in intensive nation-wide merchandising campaign, to continue for several weeks, to increase consumption of beef.

Beef also heads the list of Midwest Plentiful Foods for April. Although consumption has materially increased as retail prices declined, supplies continue plentiful throughout the country. Slaughter of cattle under Federal inspection during February totaled 1,170,243 head (about 75% of all beef slaughter), compared with 985,433 head a year earlier. Cold storage stocks February 28 exceeded 253 million lbs.

Leaders in all segments of food industry are urged to continue, and to redouble merchandising efforts already under way, to increase beef consumption during current low price period.

Offers of frozen beef for export to Greece, will be received by USDA up to noon, EST, March 19. Acceptance not later than 11:59 p.m. EST, March 23. Non-receipt of acceptance will indicate rejection. Purchases f.o.b. loaded cars or trucks at plant or warehouse.

The 1953 early spring lamb crop in principal producing states estimated 2% larger than last year.

\* \* \*

## GRAINS

U.S. farmers placed record 455.8 million bus. 1952-crop wheat under price support (as of Feb. 15), compared with 212.1 million bus. from 1951 crop. Previous high under support was 408.1 million bus.-1942 crop.

Quantities other 1952 crops under price support loans or purchase agreements, through February 15 (in million bus.): corn, 228.6; barley, 9.9; oats, 21.4; rye, 0.2; grain sorghums, 4.1; flaxseed, 5.4; soybeans, 13.8. Dry edible beans, 1952-crop, under support totaled 2,242,879 cwt.; rough rice, 557,861 cwt.; hay and pasture grass seed, 941,419 cwt.

U.S. sales under International Wheat Agreement March 4 through March 10 amounted to 7,624,000 bus. (including 827,717 cwt. flour in wheat equivalent). Cumulative sales under 1952-53 quotas, 197,589,000 bus. Balance U.S. quotas remaining, 55,539,000 bus.

\* \* \*

WITH MARKETINGS ALL SPECIES EXCEPT HOGS WELL ABOVE YEAR AGO, FEDERALLY INSPECTED MEAT PRODUCTION, WEEK ENDED MARCH 14, TOTALLED 353 MILLION LBS., DOWN 1% FROM PREVIOUS WEEK, BUT 3% ABOVE SAME WEEK IN 1952. OUTPUT INCLUDED (MILLION LBS.): BEEF, 173.8, up 32% FROM 1952 WEEK; VEAL, 12.7, UP 31%; PORK, 153.6, down 19%; LAMB AND MUTTON, 13.0, UP 12%.

\* \* \*

## DAIRY

Dairy product prices will be supported at 90% of parity through the period April 1, 1953-March 31, 1954. Actual support price established is \$3.74 per cwt. for manufacturing milk testing 3.95%, and 67.3¢ per lb. for butterfat, about 3% under the prices of current support program.

Program will be carried out through purchases of butter, cheese, and nonfat dry milk solids in carlot quantities. Butter purchases will be on a "basing point" method, as follows: U.S. Grade A or higher; Chicago, 65.75¢ per lb.; New York, 66.50¢; San Francisco, 66.75¢; Seattle, 66.75¢; U.S. Grade B, two cents per lb. less at all points.

Purchases of Cheddar cheese, U.S. Grade A or higher, will be at 37¢ per lb.; nonfat dry milk solids, U.S. Extra grade, spray, 16¢ per lb., roller, 14¢ per lb. Cheese and milk solids purchases will be at uniform prices throughout U.S.

Milk production in U.S. during February estimated 8,533 million lbs., new high for month and 5% above February, 1952. February production on a seasonally adjusted basis, equivalent to annual rate of 123 billion lbs. However per capita production was at rate of 1.92 lbs. per day, 5% below 1942-51 February average of 2.02 lbs.

Dairy products purchases by USDA for price support from November 28, 1952 through March 16: Butter, 111,528,629 lbs.; cheese, 46,723,208 lbs.; spray nonfat dry milk solids, 3,144,611 lbs.; and roller nonfat dry milk solids, 4,214,101 lbs.

\* \* \*

## FATS AND OILS

U.S. lard exports 1952 totaled 316,872 short tons, 8% less than 1951. Europe took 53%, reflecting decline of nearly 1/4th from 1951.

\* \* \*



# COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

Cooler Commodities	Holdings Feb. 28	Net Change dur. Feb.	Freezer Commodities	Holdings Feb. 28	Net Change dur. Feb.
	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.		1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.
Apples	518,880	- 213,840	Fruits	229,965	- 34,385
Pears	22,000	- 23,300	Vegetables	448,012	- 46,881
Dried & ev. fts.	37,115	416	Cream	10,306	- 6,160
Nuts & nutmeats	113,992	16,049	Cream'y butter	100,817	15,080
Cheese	217,537	- 9,962	Eggs	42,123	7,143
Shell eggs	11,160	5,760	Poultry	217,020	44,052
Dried eggs	3,208	- 241	Beef	242,990	- 9,240
Beef	10,527	- 1,164	Pork	451,327	16,514
Pork	157,744	- 2,989	Sausage	9,979	- 31
Sausage	9,684	316	Lamb & Mutton	21,900	1,084
Canned meats	56,761	11,578	Veal	20,418	- 2,919
Other	407,918	- 77,329	Edible offal	66,688	- 3,161
			Other	453,443	26,359
Total	1,566,526	- 294,706	Total	2,314,988	- 80,649

Occupancy: cooler, 58%; freezer, 76%. Frozen fruits 34 million lbs. below a year ago. Frozen vegetables 49 million lbs. above previous record for date. Shell eggs, 242,000 cases, last year 942,000. Butter only 7 million lbs. less than record high stocks February, 1944. Total meats - 1,048 million lbs., up 10 million from January 31.

\*\*\*

## FARM INCOME

U. S. farmers' cash receipts from farm marketings in February totaled about \$2 billion, same as February, 1952. Receipts from livestock and livestock products estimated \$1.2 billion, 9% less than year earlier. Crop receipts, \$800 million were 23% above February, 1952.

Receipts for all marketings January and February, 1953 estimated by BAE at \$4.6 billion, about the same as first two months 1952. Marketings in the period increased 10% but volume increase was offset by lower average prices.

\*\*\*

## POULTRY

Egg grading and laboratory test fees for eggs and egg products will be increased April 1 by USDA. Regulations also amended to give PMA administrator greater discretion in directing egg grading and inspection services.

Quantity of poultry canned or used for canning in January, 17,260,000 lbs., up 29% from year earlier and 45% greater than 10 year average for month. Quantity certified under federal inspection, 62,644,000 lbs., of which 45,962,000 lbs. were eviscerated for sale, about 6 million above year ago.

U.S. farm flocks produced 5,328 million eggs during February, 6% less than February, 1952 (29 days), but 9% above the 1942-51 average. Flocks averaged 364,205,000 layers during month- 3% less than year earlier, and 7% below average.

\*\*\*

## COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION

CCC may re-offer during the next few months, part or all its stocks of Great Northern beans for sale for export. Beans withdrawn from export list in October when supply situation indicated desirability of maintaining stocks for domestic needs. 1952 crop substantially exceeded forecast. CCC holdings total about 300,000 (100 lb.) bags from 1948 and 1949 crops.

Agency has also added 12 field seeds to March domestic sales list, with specific firm prices for periods ahead.

\*\*\*

PROCESSORS REPORT 1953 INDICATED ACREAGE OF GREEN PEAS FOR PROCESSING TOTALS 642,830 ACRES, 4% ABOVE PLANTED ACREAGE OF 1952. ASSUMING 7% AVERAGE LOSS IN PLANTINGS, ACREAGE FOR HARVEST WOULD TOTAL 430,000, ABOUT 7,000 MORE THAN 1952, AND 1,500 BELOW TEN YEAR AVERAGE.

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PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION  
MIDWESTERN AREA - OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES ---

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
623 S. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO 5, ILLINOIS.

March 25, 1953

## LIVESTOCK AND MEATS

USDA this week announced program of buying beef to help encourage domestic consumption and improve prices to beef producers. Beef would be distributed to school lunch programs and non-profit institutions. Packers invited to submit offers of beef in three forms: hamburger, boned chuck, diced, all frozen. First offers to be made by March 30, next April 6; thereafter, first Monday of each month. Government will pay price which reflects not more than 90% of parity for live animals.

\*\*\*

Meanwhile, USDA agencies cooperating with industry in staging special campaign to promote consumption of beef. Representatives calling on packers, distributors, retailers, restaurants and others in food trade, and special information material being provided to press, radio and television outlets, calling attention to unusually large supply and low prices of beef, suggesting ways of preparing and using beef.

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USDA turned down all offers of beef for shipment to Greece because of too high price. Offer to buy renewed this week.

\*\*\*

CONSUMERS EXPECTED TO HAVE ABOUT SAME AMOUNT OF MEAT  
OF ALL KINDS IN 1953 AS IN '52, MORE BEEF, LESS PORK.

\*\*\*

Meat production under Federal inspection for week ended March 21, 346 million lbs., 2% below previous week but 12% above year ago. Cattle slaughter, 305,000 head, 3% below week earlier but 52% above year ago. Hog slaughter 1,159,000 head slightly below week ago but 14% below year ago.

\*\*\*

## POULTRY

Commercial hatcheries reported 9% fewer chicks hatched during February than in same month last year. Chicks for broiler production represented most of decrease, 15% below year ago, with chicks for flock replacement down 3%. For first two months 300 million chicks hatched this year compared with 312 million same two months last year. Number for flock replacement in two-month period about same as last year. Number of eggs in incubators 4% below year ago, indicating smaller March hatch.

Turkey hatch during February, 34% below year ago, 19% fewer eggs in incubators on March 1.

\*\*\*

Secretary Benson on March 20 warned turkey growers not to depend on government price supports unless they exercise discipline in holding down production. Pointed out that government bought about 6% of last year's turkey production at cost of \$27 million to taxpayers; and that turkey industry advisory committee has recommended reduction of 12-15% in production of heavy birds from last season's record crop of 44.5 million.

\*\*\*

USDA HAS DEVELOPED PROCESS FOR USING INEDIBLE ANIMAL  
FATS AND VEGETABLE OILS IN MAKING VINYL PLASTIC PRODUCTS,  
SUCH AS GARDEN HOSE, FLOOR TILE, DRAPES, UPHOLSTERY  
MATERIAL. DETAILS IN USDA BULLETIN AIC 346, "SURVEY  
ON RESEARCH POSSIBILITIES FOR ANIMAL FATS," AVAILABLE  
FROM BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY,  
USDA, WASHINGTON, D. C.

\*\*\*

## FIBERS

Price support program on wool and mohair will be operated through new PMA Commodity Office in Boston. Charles F. Kiefer to be Acting Director. Appraisal offices will be located at Chicago, Boston, Denver, Philadelphia, Portland. New price support program begins April 1.

\*\*\*

Exports of cotton from U.S. in January, 304,000 bales, compared with 485,000 bales in December. Total exports August-January, 1,810,000 only 49% of exports during comparable period year earlier. Drop in world price of cotton, compared with U.S. price, blamed for decline in U.S. exports. Stocks of cotton goods in other countries reported large. USDA expects foreign demand to be weak except for best grades of cotton.



## DAIRY

Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra Taft Benson, urged dairy industry to promote consumption of dairy products, give up dependence on government price supports, ship milk from areas which now produce butter into areas short of fluid milk, in address before national meeting of American Dairy Association, in Chicago on Monday. Announced national conference of dairy leaders for April 2 and 3 in Washington to lay plans for adjustments in dairy industry.

\* \* \*

Government purchases of dairy products to March 23 totaled approximately 119 million pounds butter, 55 million pounds cheddar cheese; 173 million pounds nonfat dry milk solids. USDA sold 53,101 pounds nonfat dry milk solids for animal feed on March 23.

\* \* \*

New lower schedule of government support prices, reflecting drop in parity level, goes into effect April 1, to continue for one year: Grade A butter at Chicago, 65.75 cents per pound; at New York, 66.50; San Francisco and Seattle, 66.75; Grade B butter, two cents below Grade A; American cheddar cheese, 37 cents per pound; spray process dry milk solids, 16 cents; roller process, 14 cents per pound. Prices for products based on fluid milk at \$3.74 per cwt. and butterfat at 67.3 cents per pound, representing 90% of parity calculated February 15, 1953.

\* \* \*

National Academy of Science recently reported results of study made for USDA on sanitary regulations and their effect on milk quality. Found poorest quality milk came in areas where sanitary regulations did not require adequate facilities on farms for washing utensils, where milk temperature was above 50 degrees, where fewest samples tested for bacterial count and fewest farms visited by inspectors. Found many regulations were too detailed or had little effect on milk quality.

\* \* \*

USDA has complied with recent court decision and changed milk marketing order for Toledo to eliminate provision which permitted milk handlers to make payments for milk through producers' cooperative; payments must be made directly to producers.

\* \* \*

Changes made in Dayton-Springfield, Ohio, milk order recommended by USDA would hold part of producer payments during April to July, to be paid to producers as added returns during October, November and December, providing additional incentive for increasing milk production during season when supply normally is at low point. Producers, handlers and others invited to comment; producers must approve before recommendations go into effect.

\* \* \*

## GRAINS

USDA reports following acreages of crops farmers expect to plant in 1953 compared with 1952. Intentions as of March 1.

Crop	1953 Million A	1952 Million A
Corn	81.7	82.6
Spring wheat	21.6	21.5
Oats	43.7	42.9
Beans (dry)	1.3	1.3

\* \* \*

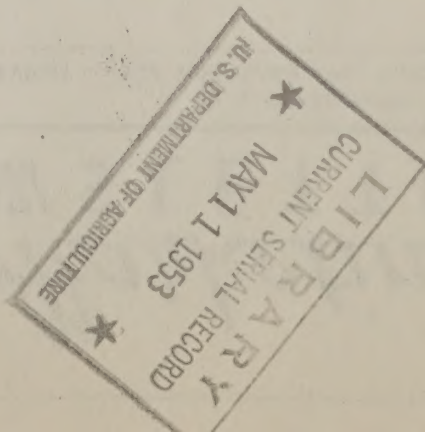
PMA Commodity Offices last week sold 1,005,677 bu. corn, 31,097 bu. wheat, 5,000 bu. oats, 27,662 bu. barley, 2,482,200 lbs. baby lima beans, 34,500 lbs. white beans, and 9,802 lbs. clover seed. New York office bought 25,000 bu. barley for other Government agency to be exported. Offices reported no purchases of new corn for purpose of replacing old corn sold out of Commodity Credit Corporation stocks.

\* \* \*

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# Food Marketing NEWSLETTER

PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION  
MIDWESTERN AREA - OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES ---

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
623 S. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO 5, ILLINOIS.

April 1, 1953

## COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION

Price support program loans and inventories of CCC amounted to \$2,912,719,000 on January 31. Of total investment, loans outstanding on four commodities (wheat, tobacco, corn, and cotton) accounted for bulk of loan total of \$1,820,481,000. Lending agencies held \$852,033,000 of the commodity loans.

Inventories acquired under price support operations were valued at \$1,092,238,000. Major items were: corn, 266 million bus.; wheat, 127 million bus.; cottonseed oil, 407 million lbs.; linseed oil, 189 million lbs.; cotton, 235,560 bales; cotton linters, 302 million lbs.; field seeds, 348 million lbs.; butter, 44 million lbs.

Corporation sustained net realized loss of \$20,888,000 in carrying out program first 7 months of current fiscal year, about 1/2 of net loss in same months a year earlier.

\*\*\*

## LIVESTOCK AND MEATS

USDA's nationwide campaign to promote greater consumption of beef now in plentiful supply and available at greatly reduced retail prices, is receiving enthusiastic support from producers, packers, the food trades, food services, press, radio and television. Cattle marketings continue heavy and beef output is running far above a year ago, while pork production is down, in line with reduced hog numbers.

With beef heading the PMA Plentiful Foods list during April, the nationwide merchandising program<sup>is</sup> intended to help increase consumption and stop downward trend in cattle prices received by farmers.

USDA bought 400,000 lbs. of beef for export to Greece under announcement dated March 20, and offer to buy for Mutual Security Administration requisition is being continued to obtain additional quantities for that country. Offers must be received by USDA before 12 noon (EST) April 1. Complete information about offer may be obtained from Livestock Branch, PMA, USDA, Washington, D.C.

\*\*\*

MEAT PRODUCED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION DURING WEEK ENDED MARCH 28 ESTIMATED AT 338 MILLION LBS., DOWN 2% FROM PRECEDING WEEK BUT 4% ABOVE OUTPUT OF SAME WEEK YEAR AGO. DECREASE FROM PREVIOUS WEEK DUE TO REDUCED CATTLE MARKETINGS. SLAUGHTER ALL OTHER SPECIES INCREASED. OUTPUT INCLUDED (MILLION LBS.): BEEF, 155.7; VEAL, 13.3; PORK, 154.7; LAMB AND MUTTON, 13.9.

\*\*\*

## DAIRY

Retail prices for standard grade milk delivered to homes in 25 major cities early in March averaged 23.2¢ per qt., a decline of 2/10 of one cent from early February, same as March, 1952, and the first time since August 1950 that the 25-market-average retail price has not exceeded the level of the same month a year earlier.

Milk dealers in 100 cities paid an average of \$5.29 per cwt. to farmers for Class I milk of 3.5% butterfat. This was 11¢ per cwt. below the February average and 18¢ lower than March, 1952.

Ice cream production during February totaled 38,365,000 gallons, about the same as February 1952, but 16% above the 1947-51 average for month. Sherbert production at 1,540,000 gallons, was 34% above February, 1952, and 162% above the five year average.

USDA dairy products purchases for price support under current program through March 30: Butter, 132,318,546 lbs.; cheese, 67,313,511 lbs.; spray and roller nonfat dry milk solids, 188,620,075 lbs.

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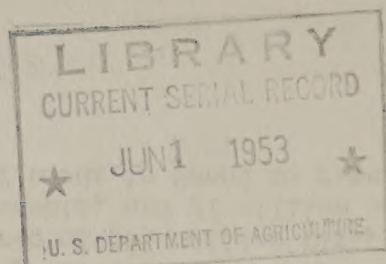
## POTATOES

Based on March 1 reports, U.S. potato growers plan to plant 1,509,000 acres of potatoes, an increase of 92,000 acres over 1952. Most of increased acreage located in high-yielding commercial areas.

High acreage intentions drew warning from Agriculture Secretary Benson, who pointed out that average yields would produce crop of 385 million bus., from 25 to 30 million bus. in excess of national requirements, and 37 million bus. above the 1952 crop. "Production so much in excess of needs is bound to result in lower farm returns," Secretary stated.

\*\*\*





-2-

## GRAINS

U.S. farmers' planting intentions March 1 indicated a larger acreage than 1952 for feed grains, slightly less for food grains. Lower acreages of corn and barley are more than offset by increased plantings of oats and sorghums. Fall-sown wheat acreage only slightly below large 1952 acreage. Spring wheat intentions about the same as last year.

U.S. sales under the International Wheat Agreement, March 18 through 24, totaled 3,927,000 bus. (including 148,609 cwt. flour in wheat equivalent). Principal buyers were Austria, Cuba, and Spain. Total U.S. sales against 1952-53 quotas, 204,556,000 bus. Balance U.S. unfilled quota, 48,572,000 bus.

PMA Commodity Offices report following sales in week ended March 26, for export or domestic use, from inventories acquired under price-support: wheat, 353,942 bus.; corn, 904,729 bus.; barley, 373 bus.; oats, 1,549 bus.; dry edible beans, 37,271 cwt.; Austrian winter peas, 17,800 cwt.; clover seed, 400 lbs.; cottonseed meal, 400 tons; corn screenings, 187 tons.

Major sales for export: by New York office, wheat, 221,258 bus.; Chicago, corn, 153,874 bus. New York office bought 31,000 bus. barley for export.

Stocks of hops for sale or use in U.S. March 1, 1953 totaled 45,750,000 lbs., BAE reports. Includes both domestic and foreign grown. Brewers' stocks amounted to 37,900,000 lbs., dealers holdings, 4,800,000 lbs. Growers held 3,050,000 lbs. of saleable hops, and 4,800,000 lbs. not available for sale under Hop Control Board regulations.

\* \* \*

## COTTON

Preliminary report of 1952-crop ginnings issued by Bureau of Census indicates last year's cotton crop totaled 14.9 million running bales. Adding carryover and estimated imports gives total supply of 17.9 million bales for 1952-53 season. This compares with 17.4 million bales for the 1951-52 season.

Through March 20, 1953, total of 1,890,024 bales of 1952-crop cotton were under CCC loans.

\* \* \*

U.S. EXPORTS OF FARM PRODUCTS DURING JANUARY WERE VALUED AT \$268.8 MILLION, 29% BELOW JANUARY, 1952, AND REFLECT SEVENTH CONSECUTIVE MONTH OF DECLINING FARM EXPORTS. VALUE OF FARM PRODUCTS EXPORTED DURING CALENDAR 1952 DROPPED 15% BELOW 1951.

\* \* \*

## POULTRY

Commercial hatcheries report 172.9 million chicks hatched during February, 9% less than February 1952. This compares with 1947-51 February average hatch of 132.4 million. Number chicks hatched for broilers was down 15% from last year, for flock replacement down 3%. Eggs in incubators March 1 were 4% less than year ago.

Turkey production in 1952 totaled 60,228,000 birds, BAE reports. Producers marketed 59,996,000, of which about 24% were light breed turkeys. Average live weight of birds marketed, 16.7 lbs., average price received, 33.6¢ per lb., total receipts from turkey marketings, \$337,093,000.

Hatcheries reporting turkey information, indicate 34% less poults hatched in February than a year earlier, and 19% less eggs in incubators March 1 than year ago.

Turkey growers were warned March 20 by Agriculture Secretary Benson, not to depend on price supports unless they use self-discipline in holding turkey numbers in bounds. "The time to adjust production to probable demand is now," Secretary stated. Turkey Industry Conference March 6 recommended reduction of 12 to 15% from 1952 production of 44.5 million mature heavy turkeys.

\* \* \*

## FATS AND OILS

Sale by USDA of about 5.9 million lbs. peanuts for oil crushing was reported March 26. Successful bidders were Planters Nut and Chocolate Co., Suffolk, Va., and Sessions Co., Inc., Enterprise, Ala.

\* \* \*

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# Food Marketing NEWSLETTER

PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION  
MIDWESTERN AREA - OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES ---

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
623 S. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO 5, ILLINOIS.

April 8, 1953

## AGRICULTURAL PRICES

Slight increase of one-third of one percent in the average of prices farmers received for their products between February 15 and March 15, halted six-month slump in prices of farm products which started last summer. March 15 index of prices received rose one point to 281% of the 1910-14 base.

The slight gain in prices received was offset however by a comparable rise of 1 point in the parity index (prices paid by farmers) to 264. Parity ratio remained at 94, same as February 15 and lowest since 1941.

Here are average farm prices, effective parity prices, and percentage of parity respectively of livestock and wool on March 15: beef cattle, \$17.80-21.30-84%; hogs, \$20.20-20.50-99%; lambs, \$20.30-23.00-88%; veal calves, \$20.60-23.70-87%; wool, per lb. grease basis, 52.4¢-59¢-89%.

\*\*\*

USDA ANNOUNCES COMMODITY OFFICES OF PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION IN NEW YORK AND SAN FRANCISCO WILL BE CLOSED JUNE 30, WITH CHICAGO OFFICE TAKING RESPONSIBILITY FOR SERVICING 12 STATES IN NORTHEAST AND PORTLAND OFFICE ADDING FOUR SOUTHWESTERN STATES FORMERLY SERVICED FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

\*\*\*

## GRAINS

U. S. exports of grains and grain products, July 1952-February 1953, estimated by USDA at 338.7 million equivalent bus., about 85.6 million bus. less than same period year earlier. July-February total included 216.4 million bus. wheat and products, and 122.3 million bus. coarse grains, compared with 308.8 million bus. wheat and 115.5 bus. coarse grains for same 1951-52 period.

Of this year's shipments, 52% went to European countries, 16% to Central and So. America, 20% to Far East, balance to Egypt, So. Africa, Canada, Israel, and all other countries.

Final dates for farmers to repay CCC loans on 1952-crop grains and related commodities stored in commercial warehouses: wheat, oats, barley, rye, flaxseed (except California and Arizona), rice, dry edible beans, hay and pasture seeds (except range grass seed),--April 30, 1953; grain sorghums, March 31; soybeans, June 1; corn, July 31; range grass seed, September 30.

\*\*\*

## PLENTIFUL FOODS-APRIL

PMA's list of foods in plentiful supply throughout the Midwest during April is headlined by beef--first time in nearly 15 years since this American meat favorite has been in abundance.

Other featured foods in the list: broilers and fryers, turkeys, lamb, all dairy products, fresh and processed citrus fruits, raisins, carrots, celery and potatoes. Peanuts and peanut butter, fresh and frozen fish, dry lima and pea beans, and all edible fats and oils.

\*\*\*

ROMEO E. SHORT, DIRECTOR OF USDA'S FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE IS NEW CHAIRMAN OF INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE OF THE U. S. TO DEAL WITH FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF UNITED NATIONS.

\*\*\*

## LIVESTOCK AND MEATS

Federally inspected meat output week ended April 4 was 326 million pounds, down 4 percent from previous week, up 6 percent from year ago. Beef production 155.7 million pounds, same as preceding week, 33.1 million over year ago.

Production of meat in U. S. commercial plants (inspected and non-inspected) during February totaled 1,747 million lbs., down 17% from January and 2% less than February, 1952. Production January-February 1953 estimated 3,854 million lbs., 10 million lbs. above same 1952 period.

Beef production first two months of 1953 was up 16% from 1952, veal, up 23%; lamb and mutton, up 17%; while pork output was down 14%.

Carrying out program to provide increased outlets for current large stocks of beef, USDA bought 42,000 lbs. beef April 2 for distribution to nonprofit school lunch programs and other eligible outlets with "Section 32" funds, and 496,000 lbs. beef for export to Greece under MSA requisition. Further offers of beef will be considered by Department for both programs.

National average support price for wool during 1953-54 marketing year will be 53.1¢ per lb., grease basis. This compares with 54.2¢ per lb. average in 1952-53 year. Wool support at 90% of parity is mandatory under current legislation.



#### COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION

Commodities available from CCC for domestic sale during April: Nonfat dry milk solids, butter, cheddar cheese, raw linseed oil, crude and refined cottonseed oil, cottonseed meal, olive oil, dry edible beans, Austrian winter peas, flaxseed, wheat, oats, barley, corn and the following grass and cover crop seeds: blue lupine, common and Willamette vetch, red clover, Ladino clover, crimson clover, biennial and Hubam sweet clover, smooth brome grass, mountain brome grass, hairy vetch, birdsfoot trefoil, rough pea and Primar Slender wheat-grass.

Commodities for sale to commercial exporters: Crude and refined cottonseed oil, cottonseed meal, raw linseed oil, peanuts, dry edible beans, Austrian winter peas, wheat, oats, barley and corn.

\* \* \*

USDA RESEARCHERS SAY TOMATOES KEEP QUALITY BEST WHEN KEPT AT TEMPERATURES BETWEEN 50 AND 65 DEGREES WHILE IN TRANSPORT. LOW TEMPERATURES, DESIRABLE FOR KEEPING MANY OTHER FRUITS AND VEGETABLES, DAMAGE TOMATOES.

\* \* \*

#### DAIRY

Dairy support program for 1952-53 ended March 31 with record last day purchases by USDA of butter, cheese and dry milk powder totaling more than 42 million lbs.

Total purchases by USDA under the program: butter, 143,375,897 lbs.; cheese, 75,335,424 lbs.; spray and roller nonfat dry milk solids, 212,067,215 lbs.

Prices of above products will be supported under new program through March 31, 1954 at levels 2 cents less for butter, 1 cent less for cheese, and 1 cent less for nonfat milk solids than 1952-53 program. Prices reflect 90% of parity.

Embargo on imports of dried whole milk, dried buttermilk, and dried cream became effective April 1. Action taken under Defense Production Act, Section 104, which requires Secretary of Agriculture to limit imports of products in oversupply and causing increased expenditures for carrying out price support programs.

February production: spray and roller nonfat dry milk solids, 80.3 million lbs., highest for month in 19 years, up 63% from year earlier; dry whole milk, 7.2 million lbs., up 5% from February, 1952 but 33% below 5 year average; evaporated milk 160 million lbs., lowest for month since 1939, 15% under 5 year average; canned condensed milk, 4.6 million lbs., down 29% from year earlier and 40% under 5 year February average.

Stocks of all but dry whole milk were at record highs for month.

\* \* \*

USDA HAS ANNOUNCED NATIONAL AVERAGE SUPPORT PRICE OF 10.5 CENTS PER POUND FOR HONEY EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, BEGINNING OF 1953 MARKETING SEASON. REFLECTS 70 PERCENT OF CURRENT PARITY PRICE. 1952-CROP ALSO SUPPORTED AT 70 PERCENT PARITY BUT ACTUAL SUPPORT PRICE 11.4 CENTS PER POUND.

\* \* \*

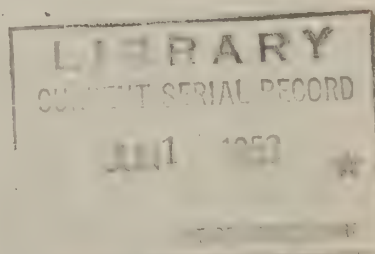
#### FOREIGN TRADE

U. S. exports of agricultural products during January '53, seventh month of fiscal 1952-53, \$268,788,000, down 29 percent from same month of 1952 and 17 percent under season's peak to date of \$322,707,000 in December '52. Agricultural imports valued at \$382,433,000, down 13 percent from year earlier.

\* \* \*

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# Food Marketing NEWSLETTER

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MIDWESTERN AREA - OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
623 S. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO 5, ILLINOIS.

April 14, 1953

## LIVESTOCK AND MEATS

USDA's campaign to encourage increased consumption of beef continues nationwide through all news media, and with active cooperation of food distributive trades and food services. Meanwhile, marketings of beef cattle at terminal markets Monday, April 13, were at near record peak, surpassed only in 1946, following end of price controls.

Meat production under Federal inspection week ended April 11 estimated 330 million lbs., up 1% from previous week and 11% above same 1952 week. Cattle and calf slaughter was 42% greater than year ago. Beef production first 3 months 1953, 27% above same 1952 period and 11% more than previous record high of Jan-Mar, 1947. Week's output included (in million lbs.): beef, 169.5; veal, 13.7; pork, 134.9; lamb and mutton, 11.6.

Purchase of an additional 514,000 lbs. beef for export to Greece under MSA requisition, reported April 10 by USDA. Department will continue to consider offers from packers on a weekly basis for this outlet.

Current program to buy beef with Section 32 funds for distribution to nonprofit school lunch programs and other eligible outlets, will be operated from now on, on a weekly basis instead of monthly. Offers must be submitted to USDA before midnight each Monday. All offers last week rejected by USDA because of price.

Cattle on feed in Iowa, Illinois, and Nebraska (3 important feeding states) April 1 numbered 2,227,000 head, 21% above year ago. However number placed on feed January-March period, estimated 576,000 head, 50% less than in 1952.

\*\*\*\*\*

PRODUCTION EXPENSES OF U. S. FARMERS HAVE INCREASED FROM \$5.8 BILLION IN 1938 TO APPROXIMATELY \$23 BILLION IN 1952, A RECORD HIGH. USDA ECONOMISTS EXPECT PRODUCTION COSTS TO AVERAGE SLIGHTLY LOWER IN 1953.

\*\*\*

## DAIRY

Milk production on U. S. farms increased seasonally in March and continued at record breaking volume totaling 10.1 billion lbs. This exceeds March, 1952 by 7% and previous March, 1945 record by 3%.

USDA announced plans April 10 to donate up to 50 million lbs. butter acquired under price support to non-profit school lunch programs and other eligible outlets. Donations will be financed with Section 32 funds and, will be in addition to 24 million lbs. now being distributed to those outlets. Distribution will be extended into next school year.

"Section 32" funds are authorized by Congress to encourage additional consumption of agricultural products. USDA acquired 143 million lbs. butter under 1952-53 support program ending March 31, 1953.

Price support purchases of dairy products under 1953-54 program April 1 through 13: butter, 4,025,914 lbs.; cheese, 6,428,739 lbs.; spray and roller nonfat milk solids, 8,147,549 lbs.

\*\*\*

## POULTRY

U. S. farm flocks laid 6,298 million eggs in March, 1% less than year ago, but about the same as the 1942-51 average for month. Nation's farm flock averaged 351.1 million layers during March, 3% less than March, 1952.

Chicks and young chickens from 1953 hatchings on farms April 1 totaled 215.2 million, 1% less than year earlier but 5% above average. With egg prices up and feed price declining, April 1 too early to determine size of 1953 chicken crop.

Gross U.S. farm income from eggs and chickens (including commercial broilers) in 1952 totaled \$3,399,948,000--7% less than 1951, due largely to lower chicken and egg prices. Of 1952 total, 62% was from eggs, 23% from commercial broilers, and 17% from farm chickens. Cash receipts from sales totaled \$3,048,625,000. Balance represents value of farm consumption.

\*\*\*

USDA HAS INCREASED 1953 NATIONAL SUGAR QUOTA BY 100,000 TONS TO 7.9 MILLION TONS, SAME AS LAST YEAR. SUGAR DISTRIBUTION IN 1952 ABOUT 8.1 MILLION TONS. TOTAL QUANTITY SUGAR CHARGED AGAINST 1953 QUOTAS THROUGH MARCH, 1,959,441 SHORT TONS. THIS COMPARES WITH 1,836,268 TONS CHARGED AGAINST 1952 QUOTAS SAME PERIOD.

\*\*\*

## HONEY

Applications to export honey under current export subsidy program, approved by USDA, totaled 26,814,746 lbs. through March 27.

Estimates received by PMA Commodity offices through March 20, indicate about 10,820,000 lbs. honey will be delivered to USDA out of 14,125,516 lbs. placed under price support loan or purchase agreements by producers.



# GRAINS

Winter wheat crop this year forecast by USDA's Crop Reporting Board at 714 million bus., based on April 1 conditions. New estimate reflects gain of 103 million bus. over first forecast made December 1. Favorable weather, with needed moisture, reported in most winter wheat areas during March, resulting in less acreage loss than expected and improved yield prospects.

Grain stocks on farms April 1, with comparisons:

	Average 1942-51 (million bus.)	1952 (million bus.)	1953 (million bus.)
Corn for grain	1,276.2	1,052.7	1,466.4
Wheat	229.2	197.9	268.4
Oats	483.8	519.2	457.0
Barley	81.4	78.0	57.4
Rye	4.4	3.4	2.4
Flaxseed	7.7	9.2	7.4
Soybeans	39.8	60.1	58.3

U.S. sales under International Wheat Agreement, April 1 through 7, totaled 3,830,000 bus. (including 70,848 cwt. flour in wheat equivalent). Principal buyer, Germany. Total sales, 1952-53 quotas, 210,430,000 bus.

PMA Commodity Offices report following sales last week, for domestic use or export, from inventories acquired under price support operations: wheat, 868,755 bus.; corn, 1,237,831 bus.; barley, 162,215 bus.; oats, 2,382 bus.; rye, 350 bus.; clover seed, 39,520 lbs.; dry edible beans, 400 cwt.; Austrian winter peas, 2,607 cwt.; crude cottonseed oil, 1,200,000 lbs.; cottonseed meal, 230 tons; cottonseed pellets, 12 tons; corn screenings, 1,065 cwt. New York Office bought 27,000 bus. barley for export.

U. S. FARMERS PLACED 270,357,176 BUS. 1952-CROP CORN UNDER CCC PRICE SUPPORT LOANS OR PURCHASE AGREEMENTS THROUGH MARCH 15. ABOUT 250.2 MILLION BUS. WERE IN FARM STORAGE LOANS, 1.3 MILLION BUS. IN WAREHOUSE LOANS, BALANCE COVERED BY PURCHASE AGREEMENTS. OF TOTAL, 117.8 MILLION BUS. WERE IN IOWA, 41.6 MILLION IN ILLINOIS, 34.9 MILLION IN NEBRASKA.

\*\*\*

# FATS AND OILS

Suspension of Defense Order No. 1 restrictions on use of castor oil announced April 9 by USDA. Action based on improved supplies. Record keeping requirements of Order continue in effect.

USDA on April 8 urged farmers to reconsider their 1953 plans to plant 4,142,000 acres to flaxseed. Planned acreage would be 20% above that planted in 1952, and, with average yields, would produce crop of 36 million bus. --5 million more than 1952.

July 1, 1953 carryover of flaxseed and linseed oil now estimated at equivalent of 42.3 million bus., about 12.3 million bus. in excess of 1953-54 requirements for domestic use and export. Estimated CCC and commercial stocks linseed oil July 1, equivalent of one year's domestic supply.

In view of large supply USDA urges farmers to plant 10 to 15% less acreage than last year, instead of 20% increase indicated by March 1 intentions.

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# COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION

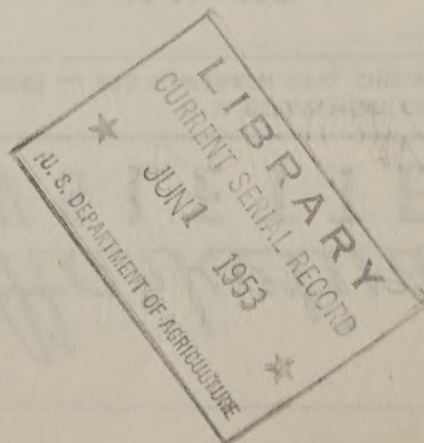
PMA Commodity Offices in San Francisco and New York are being abolished and their areas and commodity responsibilities reassigned to other Commodity offices. Twelve-state area being served by New York office is assigned to Chicago PMA Commodity office under George D. Bradley, Director.

States of California, Arizona, Nevada, and Utah comprising San Francisco area, reassigned to the Portland PMA Commodity office.

New Orleans PMA Commodity office will sell Austrian winter peas for feed at \$2.50 per cwt. f.o.b. cars or trucks, point of storage, through April 1953. Buyer must certify peas will be used for feed purposes only.

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# Food Marketing NEWSLETTER

PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION  
MIDWESTERN AREA - OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES --- 623 S. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO 5, ILLINOIS.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

April 22, 1953

## GRAINS

Responding to numerous requests that CCC corn be sold at reduced prices to cattle feeders, USDA issued statement on legal limitations governing sale of corn. CCC owns about 250 million bushels of corn, mostly from 1948 crop; has about 270 million bushels of 1952 crop corn under loan, but still owned by farmers. Law requires corn must be sold at 105% of support price plus carrying charge, unless it is deteriorating or is sold for export. About 30 million bushels sold during past 6 months. Government policy will continue to be to hold losses to minimum and stabilize prices much as possible.

U. S. sold 1,421,000 bushels of wheat under International Agreement during week of April 8-14. Mexico, Germany, Spain were principal buyers. 211 million bu. sold out of 253 million bu. quota.

\* \* \*

USDA HAS BOUGHT 8,000 TONS REFINED SUGAR FROM PUERTO RICO  
FOR SHIPMENT TO GREECE. CARGO IS ABOVE PUERTO RICAN QUOTA  
OF SHIPMENTS TO U.S. PRICE \$5.797 PER CWT.

\* \* \*

## PLENTIFUL FOODS

Beef, milk and dairy products, and raisins are featured items in Midwest list of Plentiful Foods for May.

Broilers and fryers, turkeys, frozen fish are other protein foods. Plentiful vegetables include tomatoes, potatoes, onions, lettuce, cabbage, homegrown asparagus, radishes, green onions, spinach and rhubarb. Grapefruit and oranges, frozen orange juice concentrate, and tomato juice, and virtually all types of fats and oils will be plentiful during May.

Retailers and distributors are urged to encourage sale and distribution of these foods. Consumers are being informed through press, radio, and television.

\* \* \*

## FROZEN FOODS

Motor truck refrigerated with dry ice carried shipment of frozen food from Florida to Philadelphia in latest experiment by USDA on shipping frozen foods. First test in railroad car in January 1952. Truck trip took 72 hours, required 1,788 pounds of dry ice at cost of about \$55. Three re-icings required. Unit to be tested further.

\* \* \*

## POULTRY

Industry representatives met with USDA officials April 17 to consider current and prospective egg problems. Committee opposed price support, surplus removal and subsidy programs in favor of more efficient production and marketing as means of adjusting supply to demand. Current egg prices to producers at all-time record high for April and feed prices about 6 percent lower than last April, a situation conducive to over-production.

\* \* \*

USDA OFFERS TO SELL ABOUT MILLION POUNDS CRUDE COTTON-  
SEED OIL. WILLING TO SELL AT FIXED PRICE TO REFINERS AND  
BUY BACK REFINED COTTONSEED OIL ON BID BASIS: ALSO WILLING  
TO SELL CRUDE OIL ON BID BASIS FOR DOMESTIC USE OR EXPORT.  
PMA COMMODITY OFFICE NEW ORLEANS IS AGENT.

\* \* \*

## DAIRY

Price support purchases of butter, cheese, dry milk solids have increased after lull in early April when support prices dropped. During period April 1-20, CCC bought 12 million pounds butter, 15 million pounds cheese, 19 million pounds dry milk solids. Trade bought 30,000 pounds cheese from government stocks last week.

Milk prices went down in most parts of United States during early April, at all levels. About one market in three reports retail price drops; about same number report drops in prices received by farmers. Most markets under Federal marketing orders will not calculate April prices until end of month. Milk dealers paid average of \$5.21 per cwt., 21¢ below March, and 27¢ below April last year.

## HONEY

USDA offers to sell 7 million pounds of honey acquired through price support program on 1952 production. Price is 0.34 cents above support price, which varies with floral source, averages about 11.4 cents. Honey offered for sale in 60 pound containers with no shipping protection. Available through PMA Commodity offices in Chicago, Minneapolis, Kansas City.



## COLD STORAGE

Nation's cold storages at beginning of April contained more cheese and butter than usual and the most frozen vegetables on record for this time of year. More beef, but less pork than usual, although amount of beef actually went down during month. Occupancy of both cooler and freezer space was slightly below same date last year, but somewhat above average of past five years.

### Net changes in storage holdings during March

Cooler Commodities	Holdings Mar. 31	Net Change during Mar.	Freezer Commodities	Holdings Mar. 31	Net Change during Mar.
	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.		1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.
Apples	308,736	-208,464	Fruits	189,900	-42,197
Pears	6,000	-15,400	Vegetables	416,625	-33,640
Dried & ev.fts.	37,599	+233	Cream	8,373	-2,326
Nuts & nutmeats	124,514	+11,632	Cream'y butter	129,261	+29,704
Cheese	227,910	+9,539	Eggs	65,077	+22,658
Shell Eggs	16,920	+5,760	Poultry	174,597	-46,009
Dried Eggs	3,102	-76	Beef	221,245	-21,039
Beef	11,139	-565	Pork	421,865	-26,346
Pork	148,626	-7,976	Sausage	8,973	-635
Sausage	11,708	+2,387	Lamb & mutton	20,883	-2,787
Canned meats	61,737	+7,398	Veal	19,955	-514
Other	366,364	-43,862	Edible offal	63,168	-4,104
			Other	430,780	-17,345
Total	1,324,355	-239,394	Total	2,170,702	-144,580

## POULTRY

U. S. hatcheries produced about 1% fewer chicks during March than in same month last year. Number produced for broilers was down about 2%; those for laying flock replacements down less than 1%. Compared with year ago, New England reported more chicks produced during March. Mid-Atlantic, East North Central, and Pacific Coast states about same; other regions reported drop from March hatchings last year.

Hatchery reports indicate about 19% fewer turkey poults hatched during February and March than in same months last year; 10% fewer turkey eggs in incubators on April 1.

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CCC INVESTMENT IN FARM PRICE SUPPORT AS OF FEBRUARY 28  
JUST UNDER \$3 BILLION, WITH ABOUT \$1.9 BILLION IN LOANS  
ON COMMODITIES STILL OWNED BY FARMERS, \$1.1 BILLION IN  
INVENTORIES OWNED BY CCC. LOSS DURING EIGHT MONTHS,  
\$24 MILLION. LOSS DURING '51-52 FISCAL YEAR, \$67 MILLION.

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## LIVESTOCK AND MEATS

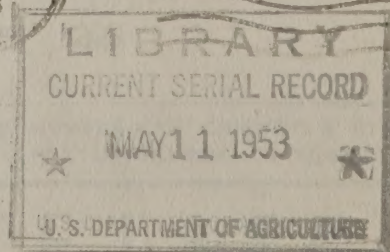
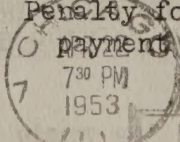
Federally inspected meat production week ended April 18 was 334 million pounds, up 1 percent from previous week, 20 percent over year ago. Beef output 178.5 million pounds, against 169.5 million preceding week, 111.3 million year ago.

USDA proposes program aimed at eradicating vesicular exanthema of hogs, which has spread to 40 states since last June. Proposal would prohibit interstate shipment of hogs fed on raw garbage except for immediate slaughter and would require veterinary inspection. Other hogs would be accompanied by certificate of owner or shipper stating no raw garbage had been fed, and that hogs were healthy. Same rules would apply to pork products. Products from hogs fed raw garbage might be moved interstate only if specially processed. Under eradication program, with USDA paying half of indemnities, 131,745 hogs have been eradicated and another 64,000 awaiting eradication. Livestock and meat men will have 20 days to express opinions before final decision is made on proposed program.

USDA offers to buy canned beef for shipment to Greece, as part of MSA program. Offers should be received by Livestock Branch, FMA, USDA by April 27, acceptance May 1, delivery June 1-15. Canned beef is in addition to 1,840,000 lbs. frozen carcass beef bought for shipment to Greece. USDA also has bought 420,000 lbs. of frozen carcass beef to be distributed to school lunch program and other eligible outlets. Further purchases to be announced April 23.

After five days return to---  
UNITED STATES DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
PRODUCTION & MARKETING ADMINISTRATION  
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1575-Permit No. 1001

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